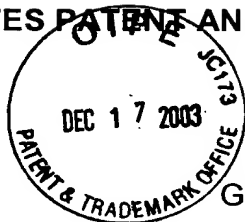


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:
OMOLAYO O. FOMADU



APPLICATION NO.: 09/831,683

GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

FILED: MAY 10, 2001

EXAMINER: PHUONG T. BUI

DOCKET NO: BB-1270

CONFIRMATION NO.: 7062

FOR: PLANT AMINOACYL-TRNA SYNTHETASES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 03, 2003.

A Petition for Extension of Time for two (2) months up to and including January 5, 2004 (Monday) is filed simultaneously herewith.

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows and consider the following:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Response to Restriction Requirement begins on page 7 of this paper.